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BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 96-158-S - ORDER NO. 96-513

AUGUST 1, 1996

IN RE: Application of Wildewood Utilities, Inc.) ORDER
for an Extension of its Service Area to) GRANTING
Include Sewer Service for Certain Portions) APPLICATION
of Richland County.)

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the May 15, 1996 Application of Wildewood Utilities, Inc. (Wildewood or the Company) requesting that its certificated service area be extended to certain portions of Richland County and the Town of Blythewood. A description of the requested area is contained on a map submitted with the Application and on file with the Commission. If the extension is approved by this Commission, the rates for the requested area would be the same as the presently approved rates. Further, attached to the Application for approval is a Sewer Main Construction and Access Agreement between Wildewood and the Blythewood Economic Development Commission.

The Commission's Executive Director instructed Wildewood to publish, one time, a prepared Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the affected areas. The purpose of the Notice of Filing was to inform interested parties of Wildewood's Application and of the manner and time in which to file the

appropriate pleadings for participation in the proceeding. The Executive Director also instructed Wildewood to serve the parties to the above-mentioned agreement with copies of the Notice. Wildewood complied with this instruction and provided the Commission with proof of publication of the Notice of Filing. No Petitions to Intervene or Protests were received.

Wildewood now comes before this Commission requesting that the pre-file testimony and hearing required by Regulation 103-504 be waived, since no Protests or Petitions to Intervene were received in this Docket, and that it is in the public interest to grant the Application. We agree with Wildewood that a waiver of pre-filed testimony and the hearing is in the public interest in that certain rural areas which are not presently served with wastewater collection and treatment would be served as a result of this Application. The request to grant waiver of the pre-filed testimony and hearing is granted.

Wildewood is a public utility currently operating a wastewater collection and treatment system under the jurisdiction of the Commission in certain portions of northeastern Richland County and southwestern Kershaw County. A schedule of rates and charges has been most recently approved by the Commission in Docket No. 94-116-S, Order No. 95-1098, dated June 1, 1995. The Applicant requests that it be permitted a charge for sewer service in the proposed extended service area in accordance with the schedule of rates and charges approved in Docket No. 94-116-S. Wildewood states in its Application that it is informed that the

area for which the extension is sought is not presently provided with sewer service by any public utility subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission or by any municipal or county utilities. Additionally, the municipal government in the proposed extended service area has endorsed the Applicant's requested extension. Further, Applicant seeks approval of an agreement between the Applicant and the Town of Blythewood relating to the extension of the Applicant's facilities into the town.

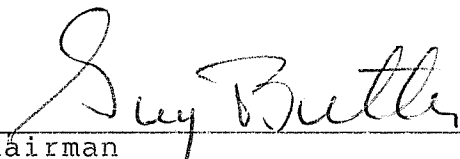
Facilities to provide service in the area for which the extension is sought have not been constructed, but have been designed and planned. The Applicant has stated that it will submit its plan and design at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) for approval of the facilities to be constructed. Wildewood states that it understands and acknowledges that approval of the within request would be contingent upon receipt by the Applicant from DHEC of a construction permit for the proposed facility. Also, Wildewood has attached to its Application a map depicting its current service area and the proposed service area for which the Applicant seeks approval. The proposed extended service area is contiguous to the Applicant's currently approved service area. The Applicant does not currently have any customers in the proposed service area. Wildewood believes that the public convenience and necessity will be served by the approval of the Application in that areas not currently being service by any central sanitary sewer service will have the opportunity to obtain such service.

The Commission has examined the Application filed in this matter, the attached map showing the territory to be served, and the attached Sewer Main Construction and Access Agreement, and hereby holds that the Application of Wildewood is hereby granted. We agree after examination of the materials that the public convenience and necessity would be served by the granting of the Application, in that areas not heretofore served by sanitary wastewater treatment may be served pursuant to the provisions of the Application. We also believe that the agreement that the Sewer Main Construction and Access Agreement is in the public interest and that it should be approved. Finally, we waive the hearing required by Regulation 103-504 pursuant to the provisions of Regulation 103-501 which allows waiver of a regulation in any case where the Commission finds that such waiver is in the public interest. As stated above, we believe a waiver in this matter is in the public interest, and that the Application should be granted as filed. We also hold that the rates for service approved in the Company's last rate case shall apply to the new extended area.

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This Order shall remain in full force and effect until
further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)